

Dear Members of the Health Policy Committee:

Good Morning!

My name is Michele Strasz and I am the Executive Director of the School-Community Health Alliance of Michigan. We are the association of nearly 100 school-based and school-linked child and adolescent health centers across the state. Our centers provide comprehensive health care to school-age children and youth at or near their school. This includes immunizations particularly during the back to school season.

We would appreciate your support of SB 237, 238, 239 to change the requirement for schools to report immunization records from 6th grade to 7th grade. This change will allow both schools and parents additional time to obtain the immunizations such as meningitis, and tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis, that are recommended for middle schoolers, age 11-13 years. The child and adolescent health centers provide over 22,000 immunizations annually. The majority will be given in the first few months of the school year as families try to be compliant for their school enrollment.

Thank you for your consideration.